

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

The following is a marked-up version of the claims with the language that is underlined (“ ”) being added and the language that contains strikethrough (“~~—~~”) being deleted:

1. – 12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A features tracking system comprising:

a device having:

~~at least~~ a first feature and a second feature, the first feature being enabled, the second feature exhibiting at least a first mode and a second mode of operation, in the first mode, the functionality of the ~~first~~ second feature ~~[[is]]~~ being disabled and, in the second mode, the functionality of the ~~first~~ second feature ~~[[is]]~~ being enabled, the device being further configured to receive an instruction capable of switching the mode of the ~~first~~ second feature;

programmable logic corresponding to at least the ~~first~~ second feature;

a first nonvolatile memory element containing the programmable logic; and

a second nonvolatile memory element configured to contain information exhibiting the mode in which the ~~first~~ second feature is operating;

wherein the device is operative to:

enable a user to operate the first feature despite the second feature being disabled;

automatically establish a communication link in response to a user attempting to use the ~~first~~ second feature when the ~~first~~ second feature is disabled;

communicate, via the communication link, information corresponding to an intended use of the ~~first~~ second feature by the user; and

receive [[the]] instructions, via the communication link, ~~to enable~~ such that the ~~first~~ second feature is enabled.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13, wherein the ~~first~~ second feature is disabled when the programmable logic corresponding to the ~~first~~ second feature is in a compressed state and enabled when the programmable logic corresponding to the ~~first~~ second feature is in a decompressed state.

15. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the first nonvolatile memory is housed within the device.

16. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the second nonvolatile memory element is housed within the device.

17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, further comprising:
a second device configured to communicate with the device.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the first nonvolatile memory element is housed within the second device, the first nonvolatile memory element containing the programmable corresponding to ~~at least~~ the ~~first~~ second feature of the device.

19. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the second nonvolatile memory element is housed within the second device, the second nonvolatile memory element being configured to contain information exhibiting the modes in which the features are operating.

20. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the device is a printer.

21. (New) The system of claim 13, further comprising:

an information system configured to collect the information regarding the intended use of the second feature by a user.

22. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein the information system is further configured to provide the instructions to the device automatically, in response to the information indicating that the user intends to use the first feature, thereby enabling the second feature.

23. (New) A features tracking system comprising:

a device having a first feature and a second feature, the first feature being enabled, the second feature being selectively enabled or disabled;

the device being operative to:

enable a user to operate the first feature while the second feature is disabled;

determine whether the user is attempting to operate the second feature when the second feature is disabled and while the first feature is enabled;

automatically establish a communication link with a remote server in response to determining that the user attempted to use the second feature when the second feature was disabled;

communicate to the remote server, via the communication link, information corresponding to an attempted use of the second feature by the user; and
receive instructions, via the communication link, such that the second feature is enabled.

24. (New) The system of claim 23, further comprising:

an information system comprising the remote server, the information system being operative to collect the information regarding the intended use of the second feature by the user.

25. (New) The system of claim 24, wherein the information system is further configured to provide the instructions automatically, in response to the information indicating that the user attempted to use the second feature, thereby enabling the second feature.

26. (New) The system of claim 23, wherein the device further comprises programmable logic, the second feature being disabled when the programmable logic is in a compressed state, the second feature being enabled when the programmable logic is in a decompressed state.

27. (New) The system of claim 23, wherein the device is a printer.